VZCZCXYZ0009 OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHSO #0644 2131213
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 011213Z AUG 07
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7296
INFO RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 8401
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY 8234
RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC 2863

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 000644

SIPDIS

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STATE INR/R/MR; IIP/R/MR; WHA/PD

DEPT PASS USTR

USDOC 4322/MAC/OLAC/JAFEE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KMDR OPRC OIIP ETRD BR

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: IRAQ; SAO PAULO

Liberal, largest national circulation daily Folha de S. Paulo (8/1) editorialized: "The Bush administration's adventure in Iraq is a serious candidate to win the title of the largest political and military disaster in recent decades. The intervention, whose declared goals were to free the world from dictator Saddam Hussein's arms of mass destruction and bring democracy, respect for human rights and prosperity to Iraq, was a complete deception regardless from which point of view it is analyzed... The invasion launched Iraq into a sectarian war that has already killed approximately 70,000 Iraqis...jeopardizing efforts to create an effective government and throwing that nation into an unprecedented humanitarian crisis.... The final evidence of the fiasco in Iraq is the US's inability to restore the nation's infrastructure.... And the situation today only tends to get worse."

[&]quot;Humanitarian Disaster"